## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00943 261209Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 SY-05 MCT-02 ACDA-12 IO-13 /108 W -------061906 261216Z /45

P R 260855Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7224
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MAPUTO 0943

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PINS, MZ

SUBJECT: EXPLOSION IN DOWNTOWN MAPUTO

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. AN EXPLOSION OCCURRED AT 8:15 PM LOCAL TIME ON JULY 25 IN THE SCALA SNACK BAR IN THE HEART OF MAPUTO'S DOWNTOWN AREA. THE SCALA IS LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF SEPTEMBER 25 AVENUE (EX AVENUE OF THE REPUBLIC) AND SAMORA MACHEL AVENUE (EX D. LUIS AVENUE). PRESS REPORTS STATE THAT ABOUT FIFTY PERSONS WERE INJURED, AT LEAST FOUR SERIOUSLY. THE CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSION WAS NOT REPORTED, BUT A REFERENCE WAS MADE TO "ACTS OF SABOTAGE." THIS MORNING THE BLOCK AROUND THE SCALA WAS SEALED OFF BY POLICE AND BROKEN GLASS AND DEBRIS WERE BEING REMOVED. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY AMERICANS WERE AMONG THE INJURED, BUT WE ARE CHECKING WITH THE CENTRAL HOSPITAL AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. BECAUSE OF THE LOCATION AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT A BOMB WAS PLANTED IN THE SCALA. THE BLAST'S FORCE BROKE WINDOWS IN SURROUNDING BUILDINGS AND KNOCKED MANY PASSERSBY TO THE GROUND. THE TIMING WAS PARTICULALY UNFORTUNATE AS MANY PEOPLE WERE IN THAT AREA AT THAT HOUR, EITHER HAVING A DRINK AT THE SCALA OR BUYING TICKETS FOR THE THEATER NEXT DOOR. THIS IS THE FIRST EXPLOSION OF THIS NATURE IN MAPUTO SINE INDEPENDENCE. END

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: EXPLOSION IN DOWNTOWN MAPUTO

TAGS: CASC, PINS, MZ To: STATE

Type: TE

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